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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/379,837	08/24/1999	TAKASHI IGARASHI	KON-1523	1789

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HUY THANH

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2615

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/379,837

Applicant(s)

IGARASHI, TAKASHI

Examiner

HUY T NGUYEN

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 October 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-9,11-15,18-23 and 25-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-9,11-15,18-23 and 25-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1,4-8 , 15 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Satoh (5,717,496).

Regarding claim 1, Satoh discloses an image recording system (Fig. 1, column 10) comprising:

(a) an image recording device (30B)(receiving side) for recording an image based on image information ;

(b) a first controller (15,12) for controlling the image recording device;

(c) a second controller (transmission side 30A); and

(d) a memory (30A) which is controlled by the second controller and on which image information is stored,

wherein the first controller can send a reading command signal to the second controller for reading the image information, the second controller reads the image information out of the memory based on the reading command signal, and transmits the

image information to the first controller, and the first controller receives the image information transmitted from the second controller, and controls the image recording device so that an image based on the image information is recorded (Figs.7,8, 17,19, column 12, line 55 to column 13, line 45, columns 19 and 20).

Satoh teaches the second controller is connected to the first controller through a communication network, the first controller can transmit to the second controller the reading command signal for reading the image information through the communication network, and the second controller reads the image information out of the memory based on the reading command signal, and transmits the image information to the first controller through the communication network (Fig. 1, columns 19-20).

Regarding claim 4, Satoh further teaches the first controller sends the reading command signal to the second controller at a prescribed interval (Figs. 7,8).

Regarding claim 5, Satoh further teach first controller sends completion information which indicates that image recording of the image information has been completed to the second controller, after completion of the image recording of the image information, and the second controller generates information indicating that image recording of the image information has been completed based on the completion information (Figs. 7,8) .

Regarding claim 6, Satoh further teaches that the completion information is identification information corresponding to the image information (Fig. 33)

Regarding claim 7, Satoh further teaches the first controller sends first completion information which indicates that image recording of the image information

has been completed to the second controller, after completion of the image recording of the image information, and the second controller adds second completion information indicating completion of image recording to the image information based on the first completion information (Fig. 33)

Regarding claim 8, Satoh further teaches that the first completion information is identification information corresponding to the image information (Fig. 33).

Method claims 15 and 18 -22 correspond to apparatus claims 1 and 4-8. Therefore, method claims 15 and 18-22 are rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claims 1 and 4-8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 9,11-14, 23 and 25-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoh et al (5,717,496) in view of Ota (6,201,571).

Regarding claim 9, Satoh discloses an image recording system comprising:

(a) an image recording device, provided in a first location, for recording an image based on image information (Figs. 1, 7,8,17,19, column12 lines 55 to column 13,line 45, columns 19-20)

(b) a first controller (30B), provided in the first location, a for controlling the image recording device;

(c) a second controller (30A), provided in a second location connected to the first controller through a communication network (Fig. 1) ; and

(d) a memory (30A) , provided in the second location, which is controlled by the second controller and on which image information is stored,

wherein the second controller includes a means for adding the date information for image recording for each image information stored in the memory, (column 32, lines 25-30) reads image information to which the date information is added, out of the memory, and transmits the image information to the first controller, and the first controller receives the image information to which the priority order information is added transmitted from the second controller, and controls the image recording device so that an image based on the image information is recorded , Figs. 7,8, columns 19-20).

Satoh teaches that the second controller is connected to the first controller through a communication network, and the second controller transmits the image information to the first controller through the communication network (Fig. 1).

Satoh fails to specifically teach that the images are added with priority order . Ota teaches a recording apparatus for recording images added with priority order (order of date information)(column 10, lines 18-25). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Satoh with Ota (6,201,571) by using a control means as taught by Ota with the apparatus of Satoh for storing the images with

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priority order by using date information order thereby enhancing capability of the apparatus of Satoh for easily retrieving the stored images .

Regarding claim 11, Satoh teaches that the first controller sends completion information which indicates that image recording of the image information has been completed to the second controller, after completion of the image recording of the image information, and the second controller generates information indicating that image recording of the image information has been completed based on the completion information See Satoh Figs. 7,8).

Regarding claim 12, Satoh further teaches the information of the completion is identification information corresponding to the image information(Fig. 33).

Regarding claim 13, Satoh further teaches the first controller sends first completion information which indicates that image recording of the image information has been completed to the second controller, after completion of the image recording of the image information, and the second controller adds second completion information indicating completion of image recording to the image information based on the first completion information (Fig. 33).

Regarding claim 14, Satoh further teaches the first completion information is identification information corresponding to the image information (Fig. 33) .

Method claims 23 and 25-28 correspond to apparatus claims 9 and 11-14 . Therefore method claims 23 and 25-28 are rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claims 9 and 11-14.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed October 24, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Sato "does not have one camera sending read command to the other camera to retrieve stored data in the other camera." In response, it is noted that Sato teaches a first controller and a image recording device (reception side) send a read command (OK command) to the second controller and second memory (transmission side) (column 19, lines 25-32, the second controller receives the read a command and check if the read command is OK (column 19, lines 3-36), the second controller read out the stored images information from a memory (column 19, lines 64 to column 20, lines 5) and transmitting the read image information to the first controller , the first controller control the image storage device for storing the read information from the second controller (column 19, lines 53-63, column 20, lines 30-50). It is clear that Sato teaches " one camera sending read command to the other camera to retrieve stored data in the other camera."

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

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shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY T NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 305-4775. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on (703) 308-9644. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to 2600 TECH CENTER customer service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

H.N
January 7, 2004


HUY T NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER